



Docket No. 299002053200

(PATENT)

Client Reference No.: F5-01965232/01R00118-1US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Ichiro TOMOHIRO

Application No. 09/894,203

Confirmation No. 7078

Filed: June 28, 2001

Art Unit: 2136

For: SEMICONDUCTOR STORAGE DEVICE

Examiner: David Cervetti

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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2/08/2007*

Sir:

In response to the Action dated October 24, 2006, please reconsider this application in light of the following remarks.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) on Vicard (U.S. Patent No. 5,708,715). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 recites "at least one memory region, each one of said at least one memory region being provided in the at least one memory cell array block, for storing the security release key; [and] at least one nonvolatile storage means for storing the security registration lock." Vicard does not disclose or suggest such features. Specifically, Vicard does not disclose storing both a key and a lock.